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We Are ... Marshall, November 21, 2003

Office of Marshall University Communications

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We Are...Marshall!

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • NOVEMBER 21, 2003

Marshall Professor Honored with Carnegie Teaching Award

Dr. Steven P. Mewaldt, Professor of Psychology, has been selected as the 2003 Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching West Virginia Professor of the Year. He has been in the Psychology department since 1975 and its Department of Pharmacology since 1988.



Dr. Steven Mewaldt received the West Virginia Professor of the Year award from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

"Steve is very deserving of this award," said Dr. Marty Amerikaner, Professor and Chair of MU's Psychology Department. "He is a person who works extremely hard and extremely well with students at all levels, undergraduate through graduate. He really wants students to succeed."

Mewaldt and other state winners attended the official announcement of his award in Washington, D.C. last week. In addition to the announcement ceremony,

they attended an awards luncheon at the National Press Club and an evening reception on Capitol Hill.

A native of La Crosse, Wis., Mewaldt was nominated for the Professor of the Year award after being awarded MU's Marshall & Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award for 2002-03.

"This is really exciting for Marshall University for one of our outstanding faculty members to be honored in this way," said Dr. Sarah Denman, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. "Steve Mewaldt is representative of the best that Marshall University has to offer students in their classroom experiences.

Besides the Reynolds award, Mewaldt has been honored three other times at Marshall. He was given the award for Distinguished Research in the Social Sciences in 1986, and won the Meet-the-Scholars Award in 1987, MU's top faculty award for research at that time. In 1998, he was named Researcher of the Year by Sigma Xi.

"It's nice to get some recognition for something that I've spent most of my life doing," Mewaldt said. "And, it's nice for Marshall to earn some recognition. It's obviously rewarding when you can get students to understand something they're struggling with.

Teaching things like statistics, making it clearer for them, I find most rewarding."

"Steve has a terrific reputation as a classroom instructor, as evidenced not just by his student evaluations, but also by his continual involvement over the years with the Yeager Scholars program," Amerikaner said. "He's actively involved in research and he involves his students in research. He's a terrific faculty member."

The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) administers the Professors of the Year program. CASE President Vance T. Peterson and Lee S. Shulman, President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, praised Mewaldt and Marshall for what they called an "outstanding achievement."

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching was founded in 1905 by Andrew Carnegie "to do and perform all things necessary to encourage, uphold and dignify the profession of teaching." The foundation conducts research and policy studies on teaching and learning.

Marshall Observes Anniversary of Plane Crash



Student Government Association President Brandon Stevens (left) and Head Football Coach Bobby Pruett lay a wreath in front of the memorial fountain during the memorial service honoring the 75 victims of the crash on its 33rd anniversary Nov. 14.

Marshall Wins State Information Technology Award

Marshall University is a state winner of the 2003 National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) Recognition Awards. This is the 16th consecutive year NASCIO has chosen outstanding state programs in the field of information technology through its Recognition Award Program.

Marshall won in the category of State IT Management Initiative. This NASCIO category encompasses statewide efforts in the areas of planning, policy-setting, standards development, public/private partnerships, recruitment and retention, training, management practices, outsourcing, consolidation or decentralization, major technology studies, strategic initiatives, budget and cost containment, project management and quality.

"This is the second year in a row we've won at the state level in at least one category for excellence in

Drive Begins for Nate Ruffin Initiative

Marshall University Black Alumni, Inc. is raising funds to assure the naming of an area in the new Erickson Alumni Center in honor of Nate Ruffin. Their goal has been set at \$50,000.

Ruffin was a member of the 1970 Marshall Football team. Because an injury kept him from making the trip to Greenville, N.C., for Marshall's game with East Carolina on Nov. 14, 1970, he was not aboard the plane that crashed near Tri-State Airport on the return trip, killing 75 people, including 37 players. He died two years ago..

The Nate Ruffin Legacy Initiative kicked off the campaign with a reception last week at the current Alumni Center.

"Nate believed in family, friends and the future of Marshall University," said David Harris, one of the founders of Black Alumni, Inc. "Because he was always an ambassador for Marshall University, Black Alumni decided to honor him by naming an area of the new alumni center after him."

information technology," said Dr. Jan Fox, Vice President for Information Technology at Marshall. "To my knowledge we're the only institution in the state who's won this award."

Marshall's several campuses and centers are located throughout southern West Virginia, serving a population of more than 16,500 students. One of the challenges of having multiple rural locations has been achieving the desired voting participation in various elections sponsored by students, faculty and staff. From January to March 2003, Marshall progressed from paper ballot elections with separate manual authentication and election eligibility verification processes to standardized, secure, integrated, real-time and reliable on-line elections which provided both privacy and security.

"We continually lead the state in cutting-edge solutions for our students, citizens and all clientele," Fox said.

Appalachian Teacher Project Receives Grant

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards has awarded \$133,050 for 2003-04 in support of Marshall University's Appalachian Accomplished Teacher Project (AATP). The award will help recruit and support teachers seeking certification by NBPTS.

This is the second year AATP has received funding from NBPTS. Last year the project was awarded \$139,000.

The Appalachian project, which has been in place for a year, was designed to build upon the successes of Marshall's previous efforts in recruiting and mentoring National Board candidates, according to Dr. Ron Childress, Vice President for Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Professional Development.

In the fall of 2002, the AATP was created as a collaborative effort with the West Virginia Department of Education, with additional support from State Farm Insurance Company, to increase the

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We Are...Marshall!

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of Dec. 12, 2003.

Deadline is Dec. 5.

Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.



Extra Holiday Set for Nov. 26

The university will be closed from Wednesday, Nov. 26, through Friday, Nov. 28 as a result of Governor Wise declaring Friday, Nov. 28 as a holiday for state employees, according to Jim Stephens, Director of Human Resource Services

Since the university has already scheduled one of its holidays for Nov. 28, it was necessary to assign the extra holiday to an alternate date. The holiday was authorized by President Angel following a vote by members of the classified staff and a recommendation by the Classified Staff Council that Wednesday be declared a holiday.

Profile: Linda Javins

A series on interesting Marshall University people.



Linda Javins

One Friday morning a few weeks ago, as she was tooling along Interstate 64 on her way to work on the South Charleston campus, Linda Javins was puzzled by all the honking and waving by passing motorists. They were either being really friendly or really testy, she decided. A quick check of her car, her speed and her driving

habits showed nothing out of the ordinary. Except perhaps for the large sign reading "Honk, It's my birthday" on the back bumper, placed there, unbeknownst to her, by her "helpful" family.

And then there were the calls about the photo in the two Charleston newspapers. What photo, she naively asked. Well, the one that showed a lissome bathing beauty in a two-piece suit, complete with bouffant hair and all, from around 1964 when she was Miss C & P. Again, it was placed there by oh-so-helpful family members.

"I told them I would get them good," Javins vowed. "They'd better be on the lookout when their birthdays come around!"

But the good-natured ribbing didn't really faze the unflappable admissions assistant. After all, she's been front and center, dealing with students and the public in general for the past 21 years that she's been at the graduate college, so she's used to running into unusual and sometimes unexpected events. And a sense of humor really helps, she says, particularly during registration periods when the phones seemingly never stop ringing.

She came to the college when she answered a newspaper ad and from her first day on the job, everything just clicked, she remembers. After 14 years as a busy stay-at-home mom, involved with car pooling, cheerleader activities, PTA and numerous other motherly chores associated with two active daughters, she was more than ready to get back into the job market.

"I've been here 21 years and it seems like yesterday that I started ... I can't believe how the time has gone by," she says reflectively. "I think it's because I really like my job ... I wouldn't want to work any other place but admissions."

She came to her job with good credentials. A graduate of Sherman High School, she received a certificate in business studies from Capital City Business School. After graduation while still a teenager, she went to work for the C & P Telephone Company, beginning her career there as an operator. But after six months of answering phones she was ready to take on other duties. In eight years at the phone company, the energetic Javins earned three promotions, moving steadily up the employment ladder.

And it was at the telephone company that she became a beauty queen. It was all a fluke, she says,

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Winters Elected to Board of Library Service Group

Barbara Winters, Dean of Libraries, has been elected to the Board of Trustees for PALINET, a nonprofit membership cooperative that supports hundreds of libraries and library-related organizations in the mid-Atlantic region.

These institutions include libraries, information centers, museums, and archives located in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and neighboring states.

PALINET is governed by a board of 17 trustees from member states. It is the premier library consortium within the mid-Atlantic region and is highly regarded as a dynamic and entrepreneurial organization. The organization is a network that assists members in delivering high-quality, knowledge-based and cost-effective information services.

"We are so fortunate to have Barbara Winters as a newly elected member of the PALINET board of trustees," said Catherine C. Wilt, executive director of PALINET. "Dean Winters brings much experience in library and information services administration and library consortia leadership with a genuine commitment to innovation and exceptional service."

Faculty/Staff Achievements

Dr. Robert Bickel of the College of Education and Human Services and **Connie Cadle** of West Virginia University-Parkersburg are coauthors of a paper, "Instructional Software and 'No Child Left Behind': Rationality and the Subversion of Math Achievement." The paper has been accepted for publication in the ACCLAIM Working Paper Series of the Appalachian Collaborative for Learning, Assessment, and Instruction in Mathematics.

Dr. Marcia J. Booth, instructor in General Studies at the Marshall Community and Technical College, presented a paper, "Challenges for Distance Learning Because of Increased Enrollment" at the 2003 International Teaching Online Higher Education (TOHE) conference, "Online Classes Go Mainstream," on Nov. 11. At this conference, 72 presenters from around the world and from a variety of disciplines presented papers and discussed ideas and experiences with participants in an online setting.

Dr. Barbara Nicholson, Professor of Leadership Studies, presented a paper last month at the annual meeting of the American Educational Studies Association in Mexico City. The paper's topic was a methodological analysis of the studies done on state intervention strategies in low-performing schools. In addition, she will be presenting a paper on evaluation strategies utilized in the analysis of character education programs, along with copresenters, **Dr. Teresa Eagle** and doctoral student Annette Gall, in

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Linda Javins

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maintaining a sense of humor about the event. "There was a contest to pick 'Miss C & P' and I didn't want any part of it. But friends talked me into entering so I did but I didn't have any idea I would win," she says modestly.

Actually she was selected from a group of other winners who represented various divisions in the company. And that's when the photo that showed up in newspaper ads more than 30 years later was snapped.

Despite her professional success at C & P, with the birth of her second daughter, Javins decided it was time for her to be a full-time mom to Renae and Dezra. Today she's a doting grandmother to Caleb, Dustin and Samantha. And being a grandmother has caused her to become more relaxed and mellow.

A self-described "super-organized" person, she's become more tolerant of some inevitable grandchild-generated clutter. "Everything has always had to be in its place, both at home and at work. After all, I'm a Virgo," she says with a laugh. "But now with the grandkids, I'm much more laid back about things. They've helped me to get over rushing around constantly to put things away. Right now I just go with the flow and enjoy the kids!"

Around the South Charleston campus she's also known for her proclivity for close encounters of the animal kind. There was the time, for instance, when she was enjoying a peaceful lunch break, sitting on one of the benches that face the wooded hillside at the back of the campus. It was a sunny day, and she was relaxing in the warm sunshine when she realized that so was the very large black snake that was stretched out lazily underneath her bench. Javins says she didn't run track in high school but she undoubtedly set a record that day scrambling to get indoors. Assurances that snakes are uncommon on the campus, and black snakes in particular are harmless, made no difference to her.

Then there was the incident of the "ugly cat." After she had once again ventured outdoors one day she felt something rubbing against her shoulder, which she took to be a cat, "the ugliest one I'd ever seen," she recounts. Turns out it wasn't a cat at all, but an overly friendly raccoon which didn't bite but seemed intent just to nuzzle.

Her animal adventures aside, she's content with her job and particularly appreciates her coworkers, Shelvy Campbell, Leslie Lucas, Linda Rhodes and Mary Wolfe, who are friends as well as coworkers, and her supervisor, Ken O'Neal. "He's the best one I've ever had," she says admiringly.

Cross-training among the admissions staff has made their jobs easier, she says, enabling each staff member to help students no matter what their needs are.

Right now she's busy overseeing the care of her father, who is physically disabled but who prefers to live independently. Javins looks after him, and visits him every day, making sure his needs are met. He's devoted to his great-grandchildren, and the family even had Samantha's christening at his home so he could be part of the festive celebration.

"My family is my life, and I feel lucky that I really have two families, one at work and one at home. I can count on both of them. Like all families we've seen our share of good times and bad times, and we've had family traumas, but everybody always pulls together. That's probably why 21 years at the graduate college have seemed to go by in the blink of an eye!"

Music Presents Verdi Requiem, Other Events

Dr. David Castleberry, Professor of Music, will direct the combined choirs and MU Orchestra in Giuseppe Verdi's *Requiem* on Saturday, Dec. 6, and Sunday, Dec. 7 at the Huntington Museum of Art.

Saturday's performance begins at 8 p.m. and Sunday's concert is scheduled at 3 p.m. Admission for faculty/staff is \$5, general admission is \$10, and students are admitted free with ID.

To heighten awareness and understanding of this monumental work, a three-lecture series of free "explorations" is underway during November at the Huntington Museum of Art. The Music Department joined with Cabell County Library and the museum to enable participants to learn more about the work. The final program will take place Sunday, Nov. 30 at 2 p.m. at the museum. The facilitator is Louis Capaldini. Reservations are requested and can be made by calling the Cabell County Library at 528-5700.

Other events coming up, all in the Smith Recital Hall, are the Chamber Choir, Sunday, Nov. 23 at 3 p.m.; Symphonic Band, Monday, Dec. 1 at 8 p.m.; Reed Smith, violin and Rhonda Mizok-Taylor, piano, Wednesday, Dec. 3 at 8 p.m.; and Martin Saunders, trumpet, Dec. 4 at 8 p.m.

Appalachian Teacher Project

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number of state teachers who are nationally board certified. In 2001-02 there were approximately 21,000 classroom teachers in the state, and of those, there were 88 NBCT teachers.

Dr. Rudy Pauley, Assistant Professor of Elementary and Secondary Education and Emily Brock, Assistant to the Dean, are providing overall project coordination.

Faculty/Staff Achievements

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November in New Orleans at the International Conference on Civic Education Research. Other recent/upcoming professional activities include "Beyond Jefferson: Making the Case for the Federal Funding of Public Education," which will appear in the winter issue of *Educational Studies*. A book on portfolio-based assessment in educational administration programs will be published by Scarecrow/Rowman and Littlefield Publishers in March 2004. Nicholson has been invited as one of 20 international scholars to an Educational Leadership and Ethics Conference at Oxford University in England based on the ethical reasoning model developed for the M.A. program in Educational Leadership.